Signs in the Rain

Use story details to explain a character's change.

4.W.9 "Cite evidence from literary or informational texts to support written analysis, reflection, and research, applying one or more grade 4 standard(s) for Reading Literature or Reading Informational Text as appropriate."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail that shows Nia's worry and one that shows what she does by the end. Circle two details that help explain why she changes.

The Garden Tour

1. On Saturday morning, Nia carried a stack of cardboard signs to the library garden. She had promised to label each new herb so visitors could learn its name. Before she could set out the signs, rain began to fall. Drops blurred the words on the first card. Nia slipped the other signs beneath her jacket and stared at the empty garden beds. "I ruined the tour," she whispered.

2. Mr. Ortiz, the librarian, came outside with clear plastic lids and a roll of tape. "We can try again," he said. Nia shook her head. The visitors would arrive soon. Then she noticed that the writing on one card was still clear beneath her jacket. She taped the card beneath a lid and held it in the rain. The ink stayed dry.

3. Nia and Mr. Ortiz made covers for the other cards. When visitors arrived, Nia pointed to each herb and explained how the lids kept its label dry. A younger child asked if she could make one for her own plant. Nia handed her a spare lid. The first card still had blurred words, but Nia no longer worried about it. She was busy showing the child how to begin.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does Nia feel when the rain blurs the first card? Use a detail from the first paragraph to support your answer.

2. What helps Nia see that the lids might solve the problem? Use a detail from the second paragraph.

3. What does Nia's explanation to the visitors show about her by the end? Include a detail from the third paragraph.

4. Why might the writer end with Nia helping the younger child instead of worrying about the blurred card? Support your idea with a story detail.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

What lesson does Nia's story suggest about facing a problem? Write 3 or 4 sentences explaining your idea with two different details from the story.

ANSWER KEY

Signs in the Rain

GRADE 4 · 4.W.9

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one detail that shows Nia's worry and one that shows what she does by the end. Circle two details that help explain why she changes. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does Nia feel when the rain blurs the first card? Use a detail from the first paragraph to support your answer.	**Nia feels worried that the tour is spoiled. She stares at the empty garden beds and whispers, "I ruined the tour."**
2	What helps Nia see that the lids might solve the problem? Use a detail from the second paragraph.	**Nia tests a card beneath a lid and sees that its ink stays dry in the rain.**
3	What does Nia's explanation to the visitors show about her by the end? Include a detail from the third paragraph.	**She is ready to lead the tour. She points to each herb and explains how the lids protect its label.**
4	Why might the writer end with Nia helping the younger child instead of worrying about the blurred card? Support your idea with a story detail.	**The ending shows that Nia has moved past her mistake and can help someone else. She gives the child a spare lid and shows her how to begin.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The story suggests that trying a new plan can help when a first plan fails. Rain blurs Nia's first card, but she tests another card beneath a clear lid and sees that its ink stays dry. Later, she uses the covered signs for the tour and teaches a younger child how to make one.

Accept different reasonable interpretations when students support them with accurate story details. For the open task, look for a clear lesson and two distinct details from the passage.